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STATION NOTES

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AN IMPROVED MOUNTING FOR FIELD STEREOSCOPES

Field use of a pocket stereoscope involves the correct orientation of two photos on a flat viewing surface. The number of objects to be handled can be reduced by fastening the stereoscope to the viewing surface. Such field stereoscopes are folded flat for carrying. For use the stereoscope is raised to the correct height and held there by a jointed arm. The joints of this mounting arm wear, and the base is frequently pulled from the viewing board when field men neglect to release the wing nuts before raising or lowering the stereoscope. Furthermore, many field stereoscopes now on the market have less magnification than the pocket scopes and are not designed to provide carrying space for additional photos.

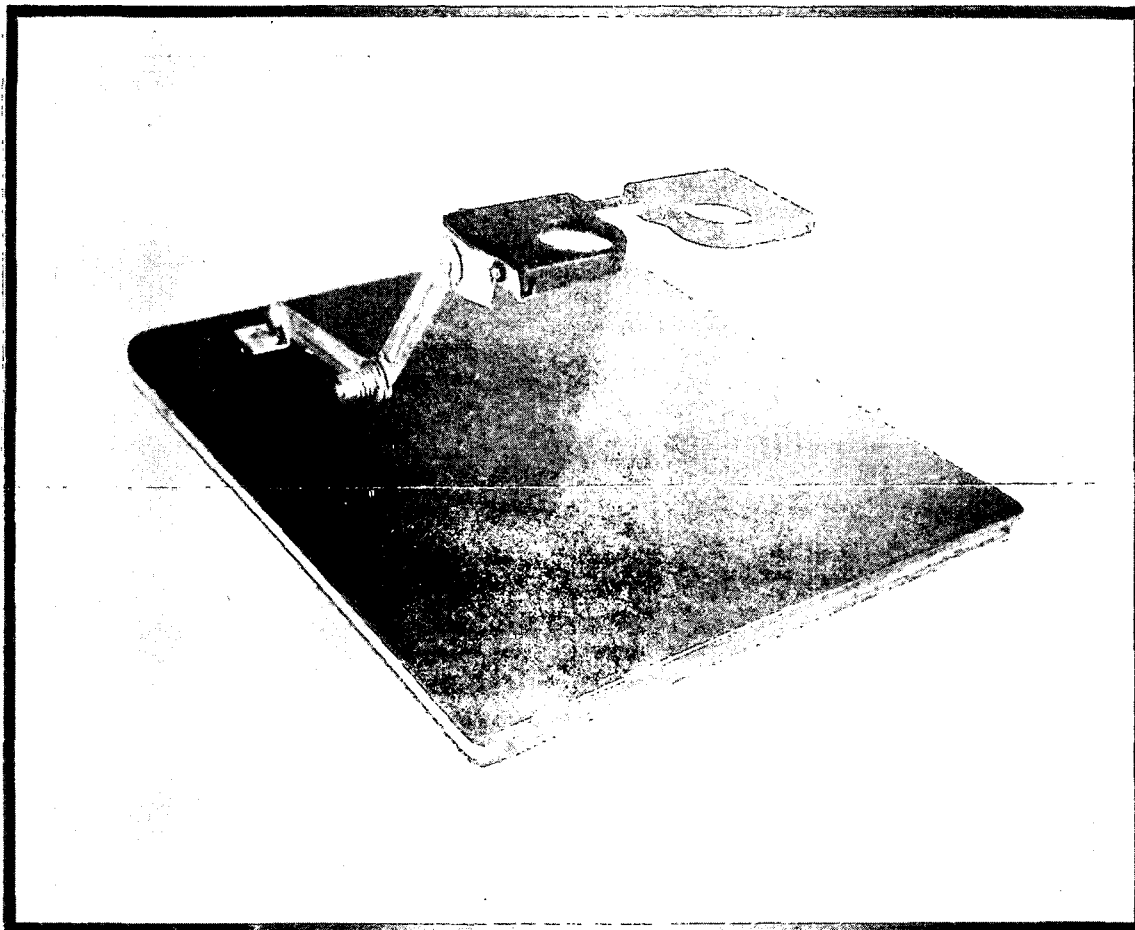


Figure 1.--An improved mounting for field stereoscopes.

As an improvement, the Abrams pocket stereoscope can be attached to a viewing surface by means of a folding arm. This arm is a standard hardware item used for holding storm sashes that are hinged at the top. Its joints are under spring-tension and maintain the stereoscope at the desired height above the viewing surface.

The improved base consists of two layers of masonite 1/8-inch thick separated on two sides and the back by wood strips 3/8-inch thick. The enclosed space forms a convenient carrying pocket for air photos and eliminates much of the usual rough field handling that photos normally receive.

For carrying, the mounting arm is lowered so that the stereoscope lies flat on the viewing surface. The standard leather case can be pulled over the stereoscope to protect the lenses from dust and breakage.

To reconvert the stereoscope to its pocket form remove the two machine bolts attaching it to the folding arm and replace the wire legs normally used. Thus with a little adaptation it is possible to have both a field and office instrument at slightly more than the price of one.

Karl E. Moessner, Supervisor
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